

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph at page 2, lines 11-26 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--In General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) communication networks, for example, it [[is]] may be necessary for the BTS to communicate with multiple mobile stations simultaneously. To do this, the BTS uses a single communication channel or resource that may be monitored by each MS operating in the communication network. For a GPRS communication network utilizing time division multiple access (TDMA) protocol, this single communication channel is a single block or on a single timeslot (a packet). Some of the reasons that necessitate the need to reach multiple mobile stations with a single packet include point to multipoint transfers (during which several mobile stations may be the intended recipient of a given packet[[,]]), broadcast transfers (where all mobile stations in a specific geographic region need to be reached[[,]]), and normal operation using Dynamic Allocation for radio resource scheduling. The European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI) standards defining GPRS outline three different types of access mechanisms: Fixed Allocation, Dynamic Allocation, and Extended Dynamic Allocation.--

Please replace the paragraph at page 3, lines 4-18 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Dynamic Allocation and Extended Dynamic Allocation are mechanisms by which [[at]] the GPRS network indicates to a given a mobile station that during the next occurrence of the timeslot in the uplink direction, the indicated mobile station is to transmit an uplink packet. The packet data needs of all of the mobile stations in the cell are assessed every block period and this activity is repeated. At the beginning of each resource request made by the mobile station, a code is sent to the mobile station that indicates which address (Uplink State Flag) will be used on the given timeslot for that mobile station. From this point on the mobile station must listen to the downlink packets for its Uplink State Flag value to appear. In the Dynamic Allocation cases, the GPRS network [[must]] communicates with at least two mobile stations at the same time. The information indicating which mobile station has been scheduled to transmit on the next uplink block is contained in a group of bits (Uplink State Flags) in each downlink message that also contains data payload for a potentially different mobile station.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 5, line 20 and ending at page 6, line 2 with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Referring to FIG. 2, a base transceiver station 202 services a coverage area 204, such as a cell of a cellular communication network. A plurality of mobile stations 206-216 operates within the coverage area 204 at varying distances from the base transceiver station 202. The mobile stations 206-216 may be cellular telephones, pagers, personal digital assistants, or combinations thereof, suitable for communicating with the base transceiver station 202. Because of its physical relationship to the base transceiver station 202[[,]] (e.g., distance, position relative to one or more obstructions, position relative to one or more sources of interference), the characteristics of the communication resource coupling each mobile station 206-216 vary with respect on one another and with respect to time. These characteristics may include path loss, bit error rate, signal-to-noise ratio, and the like. Moreover, while like proximity of two mobile stations to the base transceiver station may suggest that each experiences similar communication channel characteristics, e.g., each may have approximately the same path loss, such may not necessarily be the case.--